

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02  
/066 W

-----210930Z 125165 /10

R 210807Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6668  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS PRETORIA 0306

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT SF

SUBJECT: POLICE CONFIRM THIRD DETAINEE DEATH

REF: A. JOHANNESBURG 77, B. JOHANNESBURG 50

1. ACCORDING TO JAN 21 PRESS, CHIEF OF SECURITY POLICE MAJOR GENERAL MIKE GELDENHUYS HAS CONFIRMED THE DEATH OF ANOTHER DETAINEE, ELMON MALELE, 50, WHO DIED JANUARY 20 FOLLOWING A BRAIN OPERATION IN THE PRINCESS NURSING HOME IN JOHANNESBURG. THE FORMER ANC MEMBER WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY ON JANUARY 10 FOLLOWING A MYSTERY EXPLOSION IN A SOWETO HOME AS REPORTED REFTEL (B). HIS WIFE, ALSO IN DETENTION, HAS BEEN INFORMED OF THE DEATH AND A POST MORTEM WILL BE HELD.

2. JANUARY 21 RAND DAILY MAIL EDITORIAL ASKS MINISTER OF UNCLASSIFIED

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JUSTICE WHY DETAINEES ARE UNDER SUCH LITTLE SUPERVISION AS TO ALLOW SUICIDES AND ACCIDENTS. EDITORIAL ALSO QUESTIONS WHY PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AND INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATORY BODIES AREN'T USED. ALTHOUGH MALELE DEATH MAY HAVE BEEN FROM NATURAL CAUSES, THIRD DETAINEE DEATH IN 1977 MAY BE EXPECTED TO STRENGTHEN HAND OF THOSE ADVOCATING INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS OF ALL DEATHS IN DETENTION.

BOWDLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DETENTION, DEATHS, PRISONERS WELFARE, POLICE FORCES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/78d5b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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